

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 14991 160733Z

21

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 OPR-01 SP-02 SAM-01

SY-04 PRS-01 SS-15 CPR-01 NSC-05 RSC-01 /039 W
----- 000474

O 160705Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6067

INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14991

WHITE HOUSE FOR HENKEL

DEPT FOR "A"

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.), PFOR, JA

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: CALL BY TOKYO GOVERNOR MINOBE

1. JAPANESE PRESS NOVEMBER 15 REPORTS TOKYO GOVERNOR MINOBE DECLARED HE WILL ASK FOR PRESIDENT FORD'S COMMENT ON ALLEGED EXISTENCE IN JAPAN OF US NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHEN HE PAYS COURTESY CALL NOVEMBER 19. GOVERNOR SAID HE WILL CANDIDLY TELL PRESIDENT FORD ABOUT JAPANESE PEOPLE'S ANXIETY AND DOUBTS ABOUT QUESTION OF BRINGING NUCLEAR WEAPONS INTO JAPAN. REPORT STATED MINOBE WILL ASK PRESIDENT TO CLARIFY LA ROCQUE TESTIMONY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORT FONOFF "PUZZLED" AT TOKYO GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT, MAINTAINING MINOBE A "PRUDENT MAN" WHO "KNOWS HOW TO BEHAVE TOWARD A US PRESIDENT." FONOFF OFFICIALS TOLD PRESS THAT GENERAL INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE IS IS TO REFRAIN FROM MENTIONING POLITICAL SUBJECTS DURING COURTESY CALL.

3. COMMENT: FOREIGN OFFICE (OKAWARA) HAS COMMENTED TO DCM THAT MINOBE IS APOLITICIAN AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT HE WILL AVOID SUBSTANCE DURING HIS CALL. IN FACT, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 14991 160733Z

EMBASSY FEELS IT QUITE LIKELY THAT HE WILL RAISE SUBJECT

IF ONLY TO BE ABLE TO TELL HIS CONSTITUENTS THAT HE
HAD DONE SO. EMBASSY ESTIMATE IS THAT HE WILL DESCRIBE
JAPANESE PEOPLE'S STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS.
ALL THAT PRESIDENT NEED SAY IN REPLY IS THAT HE UNDERSTANDS
THESE ANXIETIES, AND LEAVE IT AT THAT.
HODGSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
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Draft Date: 16 NOV 1974
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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